

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOUSE BILL 522

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004

INTRODUCED BY

Sheryl Williams Stapleton

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION AND STUDENT CURRICULUM PLANS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 22-13-1.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1986, Chapter 33, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-13-1.1. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.--

~~[A. At the end of the eighth grade or during the ninth grade, each student shall prepare an individual program of study for grades nine through twelve. The program of study shall be signed by a student's parent.]~~

A. At the end of grades eight through eleven, each student shall prepare an interim next-step plan that sets forth the coursework for the grades remaining until high school graduation. Each year's plan shall explain any differences

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 from previous interim next-step plans, shall be filed with the
2 principal of the student's high school and shall be signed by
3 the student, the student's parent or guardian and the student's
4 guidance counselor or other school official charged with
5 coursework planning for the student.

6 B. Each student must complete a final next-step
7 plan during the senior year and prior to graduation. The plan
8 shall be filed with the principal of the student's high school
9 and shall be signed by the student, the student's parent or
10 guardian and the student's guidance counselor or other school
11 official charged with coursework planning for the student.

12 C. An individualized education program that meets
13 the requirements of Subsections A and B of this section and
14 that meets all applicable transition and procedural
15 requirements of the federal Individuals with Disabilities
16 Education Act for a student with a disability shall satisfy the
17 next-step plan requirements of this section for that student.

18 D. A local school board shall ensure that each high
19 school student has the opportunity to develop a next-step plan
20 and is reasonably informed about:

- 21 (1) curricular and course options;
22 (2) opportunities available that lead to
23 different post-high-school options; and
24 (3) alternative opportunities available if the
25 student does not finish a planned curriculum.

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 E. The secretary of public education shall:

2 (1) establish specific accountability
3 standards for administrators, counselors, teachers and school
4 district staff to ensure that every student has the opportunity
5 to develop a next-step plan;

6 (2) promulgate rules for accredited private
7 schools in order to ensure substantial compliance with the
8 provisions of this section;

9 (3) monitor compliance with the requirements
10 of this section; and

11 (4) compile such information as is necessary
12 to evaluate the success of next-step plans and report annually,
13 by December 15, to the legislative education study committee
14 and the governor.

15 [~~B.~~] F. Successful completion of a minimum of
16 twenty-three units aligned to the state academic content and
17 performance standards shall be required for graduation. These
18 units shall be as follows:

19 (1) four units in English, with major emphasis
20 on grammar and literature;

21 (2) three units in mathematics, at least one
22 of which is equivalent to the algebra 1 level or higher;

23 (3) two units in science, one of which shall
24 have a laboratory component; provided, however, that with
25 students entering the ninth grade beginning in the 2005-2006

.150480.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 school year, three units in science shall be required, one of
2 which shall have a laboratory component;

3 (4) three units in social science, which shall
4 include United States history and geography, world history and
5 geography and government and economics;

6 (5) one unit in physical education or other
7 physical activity;

8 (6) one unit in communication skills or
9 business education, with a major emphasis on writing and
10 speaking and that may include a language other than English;
11 and

12 (7) nine elective units and eight elective
13 units for students entering the ninth grade in the 2005-2006
14 school year that meet state board content and performance
15 standards. Student service learning shall be offered as an
16 elective.

17 [~~G.~~] G. Final examinations shall be administered to
18 all students in all classes offered for credit.

19 [~~D.~~] H. A student shall not receive a high school
20 diploma who has not passed a state graduation examination in
21 the subject areas of reading, English, math, writing, science
22 and social science. The state graduation examination on social
23 science shall include a section on the constitution of the
24 United States and the constitution of New Mexico. If a student
25 exits from the school system at the end of grade twelve without

.150480.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 having passed a state graduation examination, he shall receive
2 an appropriate state certificate indicating the number of
3 credits earned and the grade completed. If within five years
4 after a student exits from the school system he takes and
5 passes the state graduation examination, he may receive a high
6 school diploma.

7 I. As used in this section:

8 (1) "final next-step plan" means a next-step
9 plan that shows that the student has committed or intends to
10 commit in the near future to a four-year college or university,
11 a two-year college, a trade or vocational program, an
12 internship or apprenticeship, military service or a job;

13 (2) "interim next-step plan" means an annual
14 next-step plan in which the student specifies post-high-school
15 goals and sets forth the coursework that will allow the student
16 to achieve those goals; and

17 (3) "next-step plan" means an annual personal
18 written plan of studies developed by a student in a public
19 school or other state-supported school or institution in
20 consultation with the student's parent or guardian and school
21 counselor or other school official charged with coursework
22 planning for the student.

23 ~~[E.]~~ J. The [state board] secretary of public
24 education may establish a policy to provide for administrative
25 interpretations to clarify curricular and testing provisions of

.150480.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

1 the Public School Code."

2 Section 2. REPEAL.--Section 22-2-8.12 NMSA 1978 (being
3 Laws 2003, Chapter 159, Section 1) is repealed.

4 Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
5 provisions of this act is July 1, 2004.

6 - 6 -

7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25